



# United States Department of the Interior

## MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394



In Reply Refer To: MS 5231

January 13, 2005

Ms. S. A. Rondeno  
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.  
935 Gravier Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Dear Ms. Rondeno:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-08282
Type	Initial Exploration Plan
Received	November 24, 2004
Lease(s)	OCS-G 26127, Block 88, Grand Isle Area OCS-G 26208, Block 347, Ewing Bank Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of January 6, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Lease OCS-G 26208 Wells A and B and Lease OCS-G 26127 Well A.

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) classification, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as "H<sub>2</sub>S absent."

Our review of your plan indicates that your proposed activities are in the vicinity of the unidentified magnetic anomalies listed in the Enclosure, features that may represent significant archaeological resources. In accordance with 30 CFR 250.194(b), you will either: (1) conduct an underwater archaeological investigation prior to commencing construction activities to determine whether these features represent archaeological resources, or (2) ensure that all seafloor disturbing actions resulting from the proposed activities (e.g., rig placement, anchors, cables, etc.) avoid the subject features by a distance greater than that listed in the Enclosure. Submit to this office, within 60 days of completing the bottom-disturbing activities, an as-built map at a scale of 1-inCh = 1,000 feet with DGPS accuracy, showing the location of any seafloor disturbance (rig, anchors, cables, etc.) relative to these features. If you conduct an underwater archaeological investigation, comply with the investigation methodology and reporting requirements found at: <http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/regulate/envIRON/archaeological/evaluation.html>.

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Robert Stringfellow at (504) 736-2437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Howard', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

2 Donald C. Howard  
Regional Supervisor  
Field Operations

Enclosure